

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 1, immediately following the title of the invention, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

Description Related Application Data

This application is a division of co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 09/786,150, which was filed on June 4, 2001.

Field of the Invention

The invention relates to a beverage can with a protective cover, a blank for a protective cover, ~~as well as~~ and a method ~~and device~~ for application of a protective cover to beverage cans.

Background of the Invention

At page 1, please amend the fourth paragraph, at lines 17-20, as follows:

Summary of the Invention

~~The object~~ Objects of the invention ~~is~~ are to provide a particularly cost-effective protective cover for beverage cans, a blank for it forming such a protective cover, ~~as well as~~ and a method ~~and device for application of this~~ for applying such a protective cover to beverage cans.

At page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 28 as follows:

~~This object is solved~~ These objects are achieved with thin metal foil, especially tin foil or aluminum foil, which is applied to the top of a closed beverage can and completely covers its lid surface. Preferably, the dimensions of the tin foil should be designed in such a way as to ensure that the tin foil also wraps around the flange between the can lid and the can body. In the case of beverage cans with a radially inward-shaped shoulder surface, this surface can advantageously be covered by the tin foil, as well. The tin foil can advantageously be shaped to conform directly to the lid or shoulder contour by being pressed

against it with sponges, brushes, or similar objects. To improve the hold of the tin foil, the tin foil can, according to ~~an extension~~ a modification of the invention, be at least partially secured to the can, e.g., along the raised flange and/or at the center of the lid, with an adhesive that is safe for use with food. It is also conceivable to apply adhesive bonds in the edge zones only of a tin foil blank, such as at the corners of a square blank.

At page 2, please amend the first paragraph beginning on line 1 as follows:

An alternative embodiment comprises utilizing blanks with a an adhesive coating that can be activated (in its ~~entirely~~ entirety or in parts). Depending on the adhesive coating used, activation can occur by heating or moistening the blanks and/or the cans.

At page 2, please amend the third and fourth (single sentence) paragraphs at lines 9 and 10 as follows:

~~Additional advantageous embodiments of the invention are the object of the subclaims.~~

Brief Description of the Drawings

Several ~~sample executions will be~~ examples are explained below on the basis of the following figures:

At page 2, please amend the description paragraph for Fig. 5 on line 19 as follows:

Fig. 5 depicts a beverage can with ~~a different~~ an alternative example of a protective cover.

At page 2, please amend the second to last paragraph beginning at line 23 as follows:

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Fig. 1 depicts a beverage can 1 for beer, cola, or similar beverages whose top section, i.e., lid surface 1a and recessed can shoulder surface 1b, is completely covered with a thin metal protective cover 3. Above the beverage can, the protective cover 3 is depicted in its original form, ~~which it exhibits~~ before it is being applied and molded to a beverage can. In

this particular execution, the protective cover 3 features a circular outer contour. The , ~~with~~
~~its~~ outer diameter of the cover 3 is configured to ensure that, once the foil has been molded to
the top of the can, the protective cover 3 covers not only the lid surface 1a, but also the flange
1c disposed between the lid 1a and the can body 1e, as well as the adjacent diagonal recessed
shoulder surface 1b up to transition into the cylinder area of the body 1d.

At page 7, line one, please amend the introductory phrase leading to the claims as
follows:

~~Patent claims~~ We claim: